

## R E M A R K S

Claims 1-3, 5, 7, 9, 11-14, 16, 18, 21, 24, 29-30, 34, 37, 51, 54-56, 58-59, 63, and 65 are in the case. Claims 62 and 64 have been newly cancelled. Claim 1 has been amended to include features of cancelled Claim 62, while Claim 54 has been amended to include features of cancelled Claim 64. In addition, the phrasing has been modified to reflect that the amine is relative to the tetrakis(<sup>F</sup>aryl)borate anion, not to the molecules of the borate salt. Similarly, Claims 63 and 65 have been amended to clarify that the acid is relative to the tetrakis(<sup>F</sup>aryl)borate anion, not to the molecules of the borate salt. These amendments are supported at least at Page 4, paragraph 0013, and Examples 1 and 11 of the Specification.

The indication that Claims 62-65 contain allowable subject matter if rewritten in independent form is noted with sincere appreciation.

### **Rejection under §103(a)**

Claims 1-3, 5-7, 9, 11-14, 16, 18, 21, 24, 29-30, 34, 37, 51, 54-56, 58-59, and 62-65 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over Lee (U.S. 6,388,138). Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this rejection.

Applicants submit that this rejection is rendered moot by the amendments made to Claims 1 and 54, which incorporate the features of Claims 62 and 64, respectively. As Claims 62 and 64 have been indicated to be allowable, it is submitted that Claims 1 and 54 and the claims dependent thereon are allowable.

It is noted that Claims 1 and 54 as amended recite a lower excess amount of base (amine).

For the foregoing reasons, this rejection should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the case is believed to be in condition for allowance. Prompt notification to this effect would be sincerely appreciated.

If any matters remain that require further consideration, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the number given below so that such matters may be discussed, and if possible, promptly resolved.

Please continue to address all correspondence in this Application to Albemarle Corporation at the address of record.

Respectfully submitted,

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